**(Washington, DC)** Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) released the following statement on the news that Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and others were shot at an event in Tuscan, AZ earlier today:

"Gabby is truly a nice person, highly principled and tenacious. The attack on her, staff members, constituents and bystanders is incredibly senseless. My prayer and hope is that Gabby and all who were injured will be made whole. My condolences go out to those who have lost loved ones. Once all the facts are known, appropriate authorities should see to it that her attacker is brought to justice swiftly. All persons in America should call for our society to teach tolerance, love, and civility," said Hastings.

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